Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph 3 beginning on line 21 of page 3 of the present specification, as follows:

FIG. 1(A) is phase diagram of a <u>prior art</u> ternary aqueous phase system comprising water, ethanol and glycerol monooleate; (A) of the <u>prior art</u> showing the various ordered and semi-ordered structures as a function of the relative concentrations of each of the three components comprising the system; <u>Fig. 1(B)</u> is <u>phase diagram of the inventive</u> ternary aqueous <u>phase system comprising water</u>, ethanol and glycerol monooleate of the <u>present invention</u> where in addition to the known ordered phases from the prior art, a semi-ordered phase herein defined as QL phase is present.

Please amend paragraph 1 beginning on line 3 of page 4 of the present specification, as follows:

FIG. 3(A) shows <u>a</u> freeze-fracture electron microscope (cryo-TEM) image of the QL phase of the present invention (Example 1) where different levels of organizations are observed. <u>FIG. 3(B) Shows shows</u> the cubic organization.

Please amend paragraph 2 beginning on line 6 of page 4 of the present specification, as follows:

FIG. 4(A) is a representation of the FFT (Fourier Transform) of the cryo-TEM image shown in FIG. 3A 3(A) showing different geometrical organizations in the system. FIG. 4(B) is a representation of the FFT (Fourier Transform) of the cryo-TEM image shown in FIG. 3(B) showing different geometrical organizations in the system.

Please amend paragraph 3 beginning on line 8 of page 4 of the present

specification, as follows:

FIG. 5(A) is a representation of a SAXS (Small Angle X-ray diffraction) diffraction of

three different compositions a composition within the QL domain including 51.0 wt% water,

11.4 wt% ethanol, and 37.6 wt% GMO. FIG. 5(B) is a representation of a SAXS (Small

Angle X-ray diffraction of a composition within the QL domain including 53.3

wt% water, 11.6 wt% ethanol, and 35.1 wt% GMO. FIG. 5(C) is a representation of a

SAXS (Small Angle X-ray diffraction) diffraction of a composition within the QL domain

including 52.4 wt% water, 11.5 wt% ethanol, and 36.1 wt% GMO. differing in their

water/ethanol/GMO contents (as indicated above each of the demonstrated diffractions).

Please amend paragraph 5 beginning on line 13 of page 4 of the present

specification, as follows:

FIG. 7(A) is a representation of a SAXS diffraction of several different compositions

(S1 and S2) which vary varying in their alcohol contents where the water: fatty acid (or ester

thereof) is kept constant, (designated S2, S3, S4 and S5 in FIG. 2) FIG. 7(B) is a

representation of a SAXS diffraction of several different compositions (S4 and S5) which

vary in their alcohol content where the water:fatty acid (or ester thereof) is kept constant.

FIG. 7(C) is a representation of a SAXS diffraction of several different compositions (S2

and S4,S5) which vary in their alcohol content where the water: fatty acid (or ester thereof)

is kept constant.

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Please amend paragraph 6 beginning on line 16 of page 4 of the present

specification, as follows:

FIG. 8(A) is a cryo-TEM of a QL phase containing 36.1 wt % GMO; 11.5 wt %

ethanol; and 52.4 wt % water, and FIG. 8(B) is the FFT showing the cubic organization of

the phase.

Please amend paragraph 7 beginning on line 19 of page 4 of the present

specification, as follows:

FIG. 9(A) is a cryo-TEM of a QL phase containing 38.3 wt % GMO; 11.2 wt %

ethanol; and 50.5 wt % water, and FIG. 9(B) is the FFT showing the cubic organization of

the phase.

Please amend paragraph 8 beginning on line 16 of page 4 of the present

specification, as follows:

FIG. 10(A) is representation of a the SAXS diffraction of a system comprising

water:2-pyrrolidone:GMO at a ratio of 50 wt %:20 wt %: 30 wt %; FIG. 10(B) is a

representation of a cryo-TEM of the QL phase formed by the system described in FIG.

10(A) after it has been dispersed in a polymer. FIG. 10(C) shows The figure showing an

enlargement of a cubic phase island (C) and is a representation of a cryo-TEM of the

system described in FIG. 10(A) and its FFT showing cubic organization.

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Please amend paragraph 9 beginning on line 27 of page 4 of the present specification, as follows:

FIG. 11(A) is the SAXS diffraction of a system comprising water:propanol:GMO at a ratio of 55.1 wt %:8.3 wt %: 36.6 wt %, and FIG. 11(B) is a cryo-TEM of the system described in FIG. 11(A) and its FFT showing cubic organization.